

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 111

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Blake Ridenour on winning the 2009 TSSAA Division I State Wrestling Championship.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those gifted student-athletes, who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of our State; and

WHEREAS, Blake Ridenour, a senior at Maryville High School, is one such noteworthy athlete who has distinguished himself as the 2009 TSSAA Division I State Wrestling Champion of the 152 pound weight division, and is the first state champion in wrestling from Maryville High School; and

WHEREAS, with roots tracing back to the ancient Greeks and the early Olympics, wrestling is a most demanding sport, and Mr. Ridenour has proved himself to be a remarkable wrestler, as well as a valuable team player; and

WHEREAS, despite suffering from a hernia and a respiratory issue, Blake Ridenour won the championship match with an 8-0 decision over Independence High School's Chris Sinsheimer, controlling him early and keeping him on the mat the entire match; for his stellar performance, Mr. Ridenour was named Outstanding Wrestler of the three-day tournament; and WHEREAS, the leadership of wrestling coach Mark Humphrey is without peer; the support of family, fans, and the entire Maryville High School community provided positive reinforcement and vital encouragement to Mr. Ridenour, teaching him valuable lessons about life, sportsmanship, and fair play; and

WHEREAS, with the help of his coach, parents, and supporters, Mr. Ridenour displayed peerless ability and character in his effort to attain perfection, enabling him to capture the first wrestling state championship in the history of Maryville High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ridenour epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are essential in achieving success and that are also characteristic of a true Tennessean; the talent and determination exhibited by this young man surely bode well for his future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Blake Ridenour's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Blake Ridenour for his heralded success on the wrestling mat and his extraordinary 2009 TSSAA Division I State Wrestling Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.